THE
Theatrical Observer:
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2386. *Wednesday, Aug.* 5, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Haymarket Theatre.

THE performances here last night were the same as on the preceding evening, viz. *The Two Friends, Charles the Twelfth,* the new Farce called *The Happiest Day of my Life,* and *Lodgings for Single Gentlemen.*—The house was full.

English Opera House.

THE performances at this house yesterday evening commenced with the Opera of *The Robber's Bride.* Mr H. Phillips and Miss Betts, sustained their respective characters with great ability. Sapio sang with taste, but nothing could be worse than his acting; he seemed as uncomfortable himself, as he rendered every one else, by his awkwardness and uncouth gestures; he ought never to have left the concert room, for the stage. Mr. Perkins played *Roberto* admirably; in the scene where he resigned the hand of *Laura,* his acting was in the most natural,and consequently in the most perfect style,and called forth repeated plaudits. Mr. Ransford has improved vastly, and will, when his natural endowments are more cultivated, reach a very high rank in his profession. There was an apology made for Miss Cawse. who was indisposed, and her sister read her part. After the Opera, *Paul and Virginia* was performed, when Miss Betts appeared, for the first time, at this Theatre, as the interesting *Virginia,* and certainly gave us no cause to regret the absence of Madame Cellini;—she sang very sweetly, particularly the opening duet with Mrs. Keeley, 'See from ocean rising.' Mrs. Keeley, and G. Penson, were excellent as *Paul,* and *Dominique.*

The entertainments concluded with the melo-drama of *The Cornish Miners;* in which Wrench, as *Sal Ammon,* excited great mirth. O. Smith's acting as the maniac *Githian* was powerfully effective, and received great and well merited applause. An apology was made for Mr. Keeley, who was unwell; Mr. Thorne played his part.

We trust it is not true, as currently reported, that Covent Garden Theatre will not open at the period specified by the acting manager at the close of the last season, on account of the embarrassments in which the property is involved. Not only would hundreds of tradespeople, artists, and mechanics of various descriptions, sustain a serious loss; but the play-going public would suffer a great deprivation by such an event. Surely there are means by which so ruinous a circumstance as shutting up the house may be avoided; and it is the bounden duty of the proprietors to set aside all jealous and malevalent feelings, and at once cordially co-operate in the arrangement of the

concerns of this establishment, so as to enable them either to open it on their own account, or to let it to some spirited tenant. It is said several offers have been made to take the Theatre, amongst others M Laurent has offered £8000 a year rent.

(*From a Correspondent*)

CHELTENHAM.—Notwithstanding the general dullness that pervades the theatrical world, the spirited Manager of this Theatre (Mr. Cooke) has opened the campaign here with an excellent and respectable company, fully adequate to represent, efficiently, the regular drama in all its varieties. Miss Smithson has performed very successfully for a fortnight, and she has been succeeded by Miss Le Voi, who has lately excited some attention in the theatrical world. Messrs. Howell and Wieland, from Drury Lane, have also a permanent engagement here. A Pantomime, and *The Dumb Savoyard and his Monkey*, have been got up with much effect, and proportionate success. We must not omit to speak of the regular company, who are very good: Mr. Cooke is a very effective actor in all the various lines country practice imposes, though tragedy is decidedly his forte; whilst the comic talents of his wife are of no mean order;—he has, also, two children, who evince very decided comic and musical talent. In Tragedy, Mr. Barry and Miss Penley, with Mr. Cooke, take the leading parts; whilst the comic portion of the company is exceedingly strong, and comprises several very good actors; Mr. W. Howard is a spirited and correct performer, and possesses the somewhat rare merit of not "o'erstepping the modesty of nature."—The same praise will apply to Miss Gordon, a very improving actress and beautiful woman.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR EDITOR, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines, and play a game of Chess—delightful place——Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two new views, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On Wednesday, I step into the Horse Bazaar, Baker Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automa—Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, &c. In the afternoon, I qualify Mrs. P.'s discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock, at *The Apollonicon*; in St. Martin's Lane.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.—but I intrude—beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY.

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Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, (first time) a new Comic Piece, called

Nothing Superfluous.

The Sultan Selim, Mr THOMPSON,
Giafer, Mr BRINDAL, Sadi, Mr J. REEVE,
Ganem, Mr COOKE, Bobbo, Mr COATES.
Guards, Messrs. C. Morris, V. Webster, Moore, &c.
Gulnare, Mrs H. CORRI,
Female Slaves, Mesdames Coveney, Gallot, Barnett.

After which, the Historical Drama of

Charles the Twelfth.

Charles the XIIth, King of Sweden, Mr W. FARREN
Colonel Reichel, Mr J. F. WILLIAMSON,
Duckert, Mr COVENEY, Gustavus, Mr BRINDAL,
Adam Brock, Mr LISTON,
Triptolemus Muddlewerk.....Mr WEBSTER,
Major Vanberg, Mr COOPER,
Endiga, Daughter of Brock, Mrs HUMBY,
Ulrica, Daughter of Vanberg, Miss F. H. KELLY.

After which, (5th time,) a Farce, called

The Happiest Day of my Life

Mr Gillman, Mr LISTON,
MrDudley, MrWILLIAMS, Charles, MrBRINDAL,
Frederick Vincent, Mr J. F. WILLIAMSON,
Mr Jones, Mr COOKE, Thomas, Mr COATES,
John, Mr COVENEY.
Mrs Dudley.....Mrs GLOVER,
Mrs Grimley, Mrs TAYLEURE,
Sophia, Mrs HUMBY, Mary, Mrs ASHTON,
Mrs Taylor, Mrs COVENEY,
Miss Stokes, Miss Barnett, Jane, Mrs J. Johnson.

To conclude with the Comic Entertainment of

MANŒUVRING.

Count de Villa Mayor, (Ambassor from Spain to Naples) MrCOOPER
Frederick de Carnay, Mr BRINDAL,
Finesse, (Groom of the Chambers to the Court) Mr VINING.
Costanza, Mrs ASHTON,
Zanette..... .... Mrs HUMBY

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Evening, the Grand Opera, (as performed here) called

Der Freischuetz;

OR, THE SEVENTH BULLET.

With the celebrated Overture, and the original Finale, composed by

THE LATE CARL MARIA VON WEBER.

And a select and powerful Band, will be led by Mr WAGSTAFF.

Ottocar, (a Bohemian Prince) Mr J. BLAND,
Kuno, (Ranger of the Forest) Mr THORNE, Killian, Mr J. RUSSELL
Rodolph, (a Huntsman) Mr SAPIO,
Caspar.....(a Huntsman).....Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Hermit, Mr SHERREFF, The Witch of the Glen, Mr J. COOPER,
Zamiel, (the Huntsman Spirit) Mr O. SMITH.
Agnes.....(Kuno's Daughter)..... Miss BETTS,
Ann, (her Cousin) Mrs KEELEY,
Bridesmaids, Mrs Brown, Mrs East, Miss Gliddon, Miss Ibbs, &c.

After which, (20th time) a new Romantic Drama, called

The Sister of Charity

With the Overture to Idomeneo.

The Music composed and selected by Mr HAWES.

Colonel Saxe, } in the Austrian Army { Mr BAKER,
Captain Weimar, } { Mr J. VINING,
Paulo, (a Peasant) Mr KEELEY,
Andrea, } Smugglers { Mr O. SMITH,
Joseph, } { Mr PERKINS,
Jacomo, } { Mr RANSFORD,
Worgman, (Sentinel) Mr SALTER, Lieutenant, Mr IRWIN,
Orderly, Mr HEATH, Soldier, Mr J. COOPER, Villager, Mr MINTON
Soldiers, Smugglers, Villagers, &c.
St. Ursula, (the Sister of Charity) Miss KELLY,
Nannetta, Miss H. CAWSE.

After which, the Comic Opera, called

He "Lies like Truth."

Preceded by 'The Harmonious Blacksmith.

Sir Charles Manly, Mr BAKER, Mr Truepenny, Mr W. BENNETT,
Rattler, Mr WRENCH, Clincher, Mr BENSON HILL.
Harriet.....Miss GRAY, Priscilla.....Mrs KEELEY.

To-morrow, The Robber's Bride, Lying made Easy, Master's Rival.